



## “THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for October 2017

*Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond*

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## WING TIPS

- **SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE:** On 7 October the Wing conducted a Search and Rescue training exercise (SAREX). The activity took place at two locations, the Rapid City Regional Airport for aircrews and on the Small property in Piedmont for ground teams. Aircrew training was conducted with a Cessna-182/G1000 and consisted of practice in flying various search patterns: creeping line, parallel track, grid and expanding square. The ground team activity focused on training in individual tasks for new ground team members and in honing skills for the more experienced. In addition, training was conducted for Incident Command staff officers at the two locations. The SAREX also included an overnight bivouac and a communications exercise linking the two centers of activity. Mr. Andrew Shipotofsky of NewsCenter1 in Rapid City filmed part of the activity at both locations as part of a three-part, in depth program on CAP.



GROUND TEAM MISSION BASE



GROUND TEAM OPERATIONAL BRIEFING





**GROUND TEAM IN THE FIELD**

- **SCHOLARSHIPS**: Looking for a way to fund your flying aspirations? Want \$\$ for college? The Civil Air Patrol Scholarship application is open! We have \$110,000 to distribute this spring! Don't miss this opportunity. You must apply by 31 December 2017 for 2018 awards. Check out our Scholarship page link below for instructions before going to eServices and applying. The link also lists partner organizations which offer scholarships cadets may apply for directly. [https://www.capmembers.com/cadet\\_programs/scholarships/](https://www.capmembers.com/cadet_programs/scholarships/)



- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS**: SDWG flew 18 aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife over 9 days in October in support of the state's Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and South Dakota State University (SDSU). Both organizations have continually ongoing research projects surveying mountain lions, bobcats, swift foxes, white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats. The result was 44.3 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills and 3.8 hours flying over eastern South Dakota for a total of 48.1 flight hours. CAP pilots were: Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, 13 sorties; Lt. Col. Albert Trumble, 3 sorties; Col. Mike Beason, 1 sortie; and Capt. Jason Erickson, 1 sortie. Depending whom the sortie supports the pilot is accompanied by a representative from SDSU or from GF&P. The photo shows a sage grouse with a radio-tracking collar.

- **ANOTHER JOE FOSS FIELD**: A ceremony to rededicate the airfield at MCAS Miramar as Joe Foss Field took place on 21 October at the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum. The airfield was rededicated in honor of Brigadier General Joseph Jacob "Joe" Foss, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism as a Marine Captain during World War II while serving in Guadalcanal. He reached the rank of brigadier general in the South Dakota Air National Guard. The ceremony will be held in conjunction with the grand opening of the Foss exhibit at the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum, which will display his Medal of Honor for the first time. Brigadier General Foss served his country honorably and faithfully and was truly an exemplary Marine whose legacy should be shared by all who serve at MCAS Miramar. [Editor's Note: The South Dakota Air National Guard Base at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport is also called Joe Foss Field].

- **(F)LIGHT SABER**: The Missile Defense Agency on Oct. 5 awarded a \$9 million contract to Lockheed Martin for integration and testing of a low power laser to be used on an unmanned aerial system. The estimated completion date for the work is July 5, 2018. Air Force Chief of Staff David Goldfein has promised to push directed energy programs during his tenure.

Source: Wilson Brissett, Air Force Magazine, Daily Report, Tuesday, October 10, 2017

## STAFF NOTES



### **WING COMMANDER**

Col. David Small Jr., CAP

- **PROFESSIONALISM (PART I)**: As CAP members we are privileged to be part of an organization of professional volunteers. What sets us apart from many other volunteer organizations is that the professionalism of our members is often counted on to save lives. That is quite a responsibility. So what are the components of professionalism that set a high bar for CAP members? Major General Mark Smith, the new CAP National Commander, has set professionalism as one of his hallmark objectives. General Smith points out that there are five “pillars” of CAP professionalism. In this issue of the Skychaser I’ll address the first pillar; Safety.

**SAFETY**: It goes without saying that safety is important in CAP. One of the very first things taught to all new CAP members, from a shy cadet just celebrating their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday to the retired colonel who wants to serve the community, is that EVERY member can call a safety halt if they perceive an undue risk. If SAFETY were a standalone goal it would be easy. We would all stay home, eat broccoli, exercise carefully, get plenty of sleep and drink lots of water. The only problem with that scenario (aside from the taste of broccoli) is that we would not be able to accomplish CAP’s missions. It is the balancing act of risk versus accomplishing a task that makes safety management so challenging and important. Operational Risk Management (ORM) is the codified way that CAP evaluates and balances risk versus getting the mission done. Everyone uses ORM throughout the day, most of the time it is done subconsciously. Most of us don’t give a second thought when we jump in the car and drive off. CAP requires that ORM be a specific, methodical part of mission and event planning. Slowing down to give thought about and analyze risks makes everyone safe. As we are often told, a mishap or accident while on a mission inhibits our ability to complete that mission. We want to be the rescuer, not the victim.



### **WING VICE COMMANDER**

Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, CAP

- **WORDS OF ADVICE**: Somehow it just occurred to me. If I take out an ad in the Skychaser under the title Vice Wing Commander, doesn’t that become AD-Vice?? I do want to share a few thoughts on recruiting. Every time we don a uniform and step out into the public we are representing CAP and the military in general. People look at us and form instant opinions, some good, some not so good. The not so good category is the one we need to work on the most. Be sharp! Look sharp! Sound sharp! Those bad first opinions are very hard to change. We don’t always realize the impact we can have even when we are just going about our daily routine. The older we get the more “life stories” we accumulate. I want to encourage our more senior members to share some of their life experiences with the Cadets and other Officers. We can all glean something different out of



the same story. Case in point. I was helping the Lookout Mountain Cadets External AE Program with a school visit. It was a group of sixth graders in Spearfish (I also recruited the teacher for an AEM/TOPS ride in the airplane). Anyway, it was a History of Aviation class starring General Chuck Yeager. At the end of the movie, I asked a simple question to see who was paying attention. The person answering the question correctly would get a free ride in my PA-30 to Mt Rushmore. Nobody raised their hand. So I left them with the offer and my phone number to call me over the weekend. I did finally get a call from a young man named Kody who was able to answer my question correctly, so we jumped into the airplane (with his parent's permission of course) and off we flew. Although I never saw the young man again, here is the letter I got from him 15 years later:

My name is Kody Derosier. I am a South Dakota State University Aviation Program graduate and current Skywest Airlines FO. A couple years ago I had the opportunity to speak in front of you and the industry advisory board. Furthermore, I was the 6th grade aspiring aviator that won a ride as your co-pilot in your personal twin Comanche. That day you started my aviation career, and for this I will always be grateful. As I further my career at Skywest and prepare for my upgrade, I am so excited about my future and what is yet to come. Since the beginning I have dreamed of flying for Delta airlines. I wanted to reach out to you for any tips or advice you may have. I want to put my best foot forward giving myself the best possible chance to follow my dreams. I hope it is ok that I am sending you this email. I figured there is no one better to contact then the person who started it all. Delta's culture is amazing. Ranking number 21 in Forbes top 50 companies to work for does not happen by chance. I hope to someday be a part of this culture. Of the great companies out there today, I know my personality fits best with Delta. As I continue perfecting my application for Delta I would love to talk about any hiring tips, tricks, or any advice you may have. Please feel free to contact me via phone or by email. Very Respectfully,  
Kody Derosier, Skywest FO

Now, if that isn't a warm fuzzy, I don't know what is. We don't always expect to recruit new cadets, but we do always want to make a good first impression! Oh, by the way, the question was "Who was the Glamorous Glennis painted on the side of Chuck Yeager's airplane?"



## **WING CHIEF OF STAFF**

Maj. Nick Gengler, CAP

- The SD Wing is hosting a Region Cadet Leadership School at the end of December in Sioux Falls, SD. With the location so close to home, this is a great opportunity to learn new leadership skills and knowledge to bring back to your local Squadron and Wing. As this is a Region activity, the 8 Wings will be invited to participate. The week will be filled with classroom instruction, guest speakers, group leadership problems, and fun filled activities. Come learn from the experienced leaders throughout our Region from CAP members and military personnel. A RCLS is required for any cadet to achieve Phase IV, the Eaker Award. Information about cost, location, minimum requirements, packing lists, and more can be found at the sign up link here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/region-cadet-leadership-academy-tickets-36610547132>. The link is also posted on the [www.sdcap.us](http://www.sdcap.us) homepage.

## SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

### **CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)**

(Item submitted by Capt. Bierwirth)

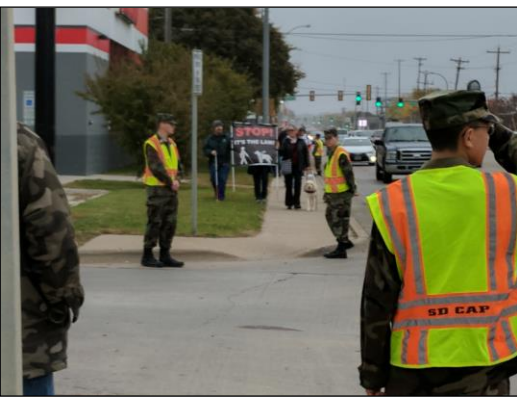


- On 2 October our squadron was invited to the Battle Mountain American Legion Post 71 Riders meeting where they presented us a check for Wreaths across America for the purchase of 27 wreaths. Our current wreath count is up to 452, we are hoping to reach 500 this year.

### **SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIOUX FALLS)**

(Item and photos submitted by Col. Mary Donley and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. M. Klosterman)

- FESTIVAL OF BANDS**: The squadron's Color Guard participated in the 30th Annual Festival of Bands parade in downtown Sioux Falls on 7 October. The event consisted of high school bands from a four-state area and other community organizations. The Color Guard consisted of C/CMSgt David Willison, C/SMSgt Isaiah Klosterman, C/TSgt Sydnie Cloutier, and C/SrA Kaleb Sarchet.



- WHITE CANE WALK**: On 15 October, nine squadron members helped with the local "White Cane Walk" held annually to raise awareness for the community to know what to do when they see a visually impaired individual. Mr. Bob Smith, a case manager for the State Visually Impaired Department, asked for our help with parking, traffic control and pointing out potential obstacles for the walkers. Bob was a former cadet in the Sioux Falls squadron, as was his wife, two brothers, father and mother. His father, Maj. Eugene Smith, was commander of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron from 1969-1973. The event's organizers were very appreciative of our help and our cadets were highly praised by Sioux Falls Police Officers present.

Thanks to all who helped out at this event - C/CMSgt David Willison, C/SMSgt Isaiah Klosterman, C/SMSgt Peter Willison, C/SrA Kaleb Sarchet, C/Amn Lydia Klosterman, C/Amn Daniel Willison, Cadet David Volk, Col. Mary Donley and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Mimi Klosterman.

- CADET PROGRAMS ANNIVERSARY**: On 19 October, the squadron celebrated the 75th Anniversary of CAP's Cadet Program by having Lt. Col. Todd Epp, Lt. Col. Gary Rae and C/1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kyle Clement wear their recreations of CAP uniforms from the 1940s. They described in detail what the different items were on their uniforms. There were some great questions from the cadets and good discussions came out of it.



# ★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

## **Senior Member Promotion**



Congratulations to Tom Bass of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel! The newly promoted Lt. col. Bass currently serves on the Wing Staff as Director of Finance.

## **Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions**



Congratulations to Peter Willison and Jacob Roth, both of Sioux Falls and both members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron; to Caleb Hofer of Hendricks, MN, a member of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron; and to James Updike of Oelrichs, a member of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, on their promotion to Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!



Congratulations to Sydnie Cloutier of Sioux Falls, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, her promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Charles Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Thomas Friedrich of Spearfish, a member of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, on promotion to Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Kaleb Sarchet of Valley Springs, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



## **Cadet Airman Promotion**



Congratulations to Grady Dehler of Rapid City, a member of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, on his promotion to the rank of Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Ethan McCormick of Rapid City, a member of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, and to Brady Hedrick of Sioux Falls, a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Noah Healy of Mitchell and to Storm King of Sioux Falls, both members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on promotion to Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!





## ★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to SM Matt Healy of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who was the first to correctly answer the question about the flag in the right rear of the portraits of CAP's new national leaders.



Congratulations to Bruce Kipp, SDWG Director of Public affairs, on receiving the permanent grade of Lieutenant Colonel. You may not know that the initial promotion to Lt. Col. is probationary for one year. After that year has passed, and with the recommendation the wing, Col Regena Aye, Commander of the North Central Region, confirms the rank as permanent.

## ★ ★ SQUADRON OF THE PAST ★ ★

Civil Air Patrol  
Pierre Squadron  
1955



SQUADRON COMMANDER GLEN RANDOLPH (KNEELING CENTER)

